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Letter dated 28 November 2017 from the Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith decision No. 065/CENI/BUR/17 of 5 November 2017 on the publication of the presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local electoral calendar (see annex), in addition to the following two enclosures:

1. Presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local electoral calendar (see enclosure 1);

2. External constraints linked to the implementation of the 2017–2019 electoral calendar (see enclosure 2).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ignace **Gata Mavita**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 28 November 2017 from the Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Democratic Republic of the Congo
National Independent Electoral Commission
Office of the President

Decision No. 065/CENI/BUR/17 of 5 November 2017 on the publication of the presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local electoral calendar

The Bureau,

Having regard to the Constitution of the Democratic Republic of the Congo of 18 February 2006, as presently amended, in particular article 211;

Having regard to Organic Act No. 13/012 of 19 April 2013 amending and supplementing Act No. 10/013 of 28 July 2010 on the organization and functioning of the National Independent Electoral Commission, in particular articles 9, points 1 and 5, 23 *novies* paragraph 2 and 24 *ter*;

Having regard to Act No. 06/006 of 9 March 2006 on the organization of presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local elections, as amended by Act No. 11/003 of 25 June 2011 and Act No. 15/001 of 12 February 2015;

Having regard to National Assembly resolution No. 004/CAB/P/AN/AM/2013 of 7 June 2013 confirming the appointment of the members of the National Independent Electoral Commission;

Having regard to National Assembly resolutions No. 002/CAB/P/AN/AM/2015 of 9 November 2015 and No. 003/CAB/P/AN/AM/2015 of 26 November 2015 endorsing members of the Bureau, namely the President, Vice-President and Quaestor of the National Independent Electoral Commission;

Having regard to National Assembly resolution No. 02/CAB/P/AN/2017 of 15 June 2017 endorsing members of the Bureau, namely the Quaestor and Deputy Quaestor of the National Independent Electoral Commission;

Having regard to order No. 13/058 of 13 June 2013 on the investiture of the members of the National Independent Electoral Commission;

Having regard to order No. 15/083 of 16 November 2015 on the investiture of three members of the National Independent Electoral Commission;

Having regard to order No. 17/023 of 24 June 2017 on the investiture of two members of the National Independent Electoral Commission;

Having regard to the rules of procedure of the National Independent Electoral Commission, insofar as they have been declared consistent with the Constitution, in particular article 60 thereof, by the Supreme Court of Justice, acting as the Constitutional Court in its ruling R.CONST.267/TSR of 6 December 2013;

Considering chapter IV, paragraph 2, of the Comprehensive and Inclusive Political Agreement of the Inter-diocesan Centre of Kinshasa of 31 December 2016;

Considering the assessment meetings held in Kananga, from 28 to 31 August 2017 and in Kinshasa from 14 to 18 October 2017, respectively, between the Government, the National Council for Monitoring the Agreement and the Electoral Process and the National Independent Electoral Commission;

Having regard to necessity,

After debate and deliberation in the plenary assembly;

Hereby decides:

Article 1:

The organization is hereby ordered of presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local elections, in accordance with the calendar attached hereto.

Article 2:

All previous provisions contrary to the present decision are hereby repealed.

Article 3:

The members of the Bureau, each within their area of competence, and the National Executive Secretary, are responsible for enforcing this decision, which shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

Done at Kinshasa, on 5 November 2017
(*Signed*) Coreille **Nangaa Yobeluo**

Enclosure 1

Electoral process calendar

Presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local elections

No.	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
I. Comprehensive revision of the electoral roll				
1	3 November 2017	31 January 2018	90	Finalization of the identification and enrolment of voters in the last registration centres in Kasai, Central Kasai, Luilu and Kamiji (last registration centres open)
2	15 November 2017	30 November 2017	16	Adoption of the revised Act to organize presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local elections
3	25 November 2017	26 March 2018	122	Acquisition and deployment of equipment, and detection of potential biometric duplicates
4	15 December 2017		1	Enactment of the revised Act to organize presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local elections
5	1 February 2018	14 February 2018	14	Electoral list disputes after the closure of registration centres (articles 40 and 41 of the electoral law)
6	15 February 2018	26 February 2018	12	Collection and transmission of final flash drives to processing branches and the National Processing Centre
7	27 February 2018	12 March 2018	14	Data processing and consolidation by the National Processing Centre (centralization)
8	4 March 2018	2 May 2018	60	Finalization of preparations for enrolment of Congolese living abroad, and identification of registration centres in consular and diplomatic premises (68 consular zones)
9	27 March 2018	5 April 2018	10	Validation of the results of duplicate detection
10	6 April 2018		1	Decision on publication of voter statistics by electoral bodies
11	1 July 2018	28 September 2018	90	Enrolment of Congolese living abroad
12	6 May 2018	25 May 2018	20	Audit of updated electoral roll

No	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
II. Combined direct elections: presidential, legislative and provincial				
13	17 January 2018	3 October 2018	260	Selection of providers; ordering, delivery and deployment of non-sensitive electoral materials to training sites
14	7 April 2018	13 April 2018	7	Preparation of bill on the distribution of seats by the Government and submission to the National Assembly
15	14 April 2018	23 April 2018	10	Vote in parliament on the Seats Distribution Act
16	8 May 2018		15	Enactment of the Seats Distribution Act (article 140 of the Constitution)
17	9 May 2018	18 May 2018	10	Update and pilot test of candidate registration software and setting up of transmission system
18	19 May 2018	5 June 2018	18	Packing of material and equipment for the candidacy reception and processing offices
19	27 May 2018	7 December 2018	195	Printing, shipping and posting of the provisional and final electoral lists
20	6 June 2018	22 June 2018	17	Training of officers, shipping of material and fitting out of the candidacy reception and processing offices
21	23 June 2018		1	Calling of elections (article 11 of the electoral law)
22	24 June 2018	8 July 2018	15	Opening of candidacy reception and processing offices to update candidacies of provincial deputies; collection of forms, and filing and processing of provincial deputy candidates' records
23	9 July 2018	13 July 2018	5	Addition, withdrawal and substitution of provincial deputy candidates (article 16 of the electoral law)
24	14 July 2018	24 July 2018	11	Transmission of the physical files of provincial deputy candidates, and deliberation by the plenary assembly of the National Independent Electoral Commission
25	25 July 2018		1	Publication of provisional lists of provincial deputy candidates
26	26 July 2018	5 August 2018	11	Disputes relating to candidacies for provincial deputies (filing and processing of appeals): articles 25 and 27 of the electoral law

No.	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
27	6 August 2018	12 August 2018	7	National Independent Electoral Commission notified of court orders issued as a result of provincial deputy candidacy disputes
28	13 August 2018	19 August 2018	7	Consideration by the National Independent Electoral Commission of the duties of the appeals courts
29	20 August 2018		1	Publication of the final lists of provincial deputy candidates
30	25 July 2018	8 August 2018	15	Opening of candidacy reception and processing offices to register presidential and national deputy candidacies: collection of forms, and filing and processing of presidential and national deputy candidates' records
31	9 August 2018	13 August 2018	5	Addition, withdrawal and substitution of presidential and national deputy candidates (article 16 of the electoral law)
32	14 August 2018	23 August 2018	10	Transmission of the physical files of presidential and national deputy candidates, and deliberation by the plenary assembly of the National Independent Electoral Commission
33	24 August 2018		1	Publication of the provisional lists of presidential and national deputy candidates
34	25 August 2018	4 September 2018	11	Disputes relating to presidential and national deputy candidacies (filing and processing of appeals): articles 25 and 27 of the electoral law
35	5 September 2018	11 September 2018	7	National Independent Electoral Commission notified of court orders issued as a result of candidacy disputes
36	12 September 2018	18 September 2018	7	Consideration by the National Independent Electoral Commission of the duties of the Constitutional Court
37	19 September 2018		1	Publication of the final lists of the presidential and national deputy candidates
38	20 September 2018	6 October 2018	17	Technical preparations for the printing of ballots, records and result forms: clean-up and consolidation of the candidate database
39	7 October 2018	15 November 2018	40	Printing, packing and delivery to the 15 hubs of the ballots, records and result forms
40	16 November 2018	5 December 2018	20	Distribution of ballots, records and result forms to training sites

No.	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
41	8 November 2018	22 December 2018	45	Witness accreditation
42	8 November 2018	10 December 2018	33	Observer and journalist accreditation
43	1 August 2018	29 September 2018	60	Recruitment of trainers and electoral officers
44	30 September 2018	5 December 2018	67	Cascade training of national, provincial and territorial electoral trainers
45	6 December 2018	12 December 2018	7	Training of polling station heads and presiding trainers
46	13 December 2018	19 December 2018	7	Deployment of polling station heads and presiding trainers from training sites to the polling stations
47	17 December 2018	21 December 2018	5	Training of members of polling and counting committees
48	22 November 2018	21 December 2018	30	Electoral campaign for the presidential, legislative and provincial elections
49	22 December 2018		1	Deployment of members of polling and counting committees and setting up of polling stations
50	Sunday, 23 December 2018		1	Day of the combined direct presidential, legislative, national and provincial elections
51	24 December 2018	29 December 2018	6	Collection, compilation and centralization of the presidential election results
52	24 December 2018	22 January 2019	30	Collection, compilation and centralization of the legislative and provincial elections results
53	30 December 2018		1	Announcement of provisional results of the presidential election
54	31 December 2018	8 January 2019	9	Appeals and processing of presidential election result disputes (articles 73 and 74 of the electoral law)
55	9 January 2019		1	Publication of final results of the presidential election
56	12 January 2019		1	Swearing in of the President-elect
57	23 January 2019		1	Announcement of provisional results of the legislative and provincial elections
58	24 January 2019	31 January 2019	8	Appeals relating to legislative and provincial election result disputes (article 73 of the electoral law)
59	1 February 2019	1 April 2019	60	Processing of legislative and provincial election result disputes (article 74 of the electoral law)

No.	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
60	23 January 2019	11 February 2019	20	Preselection, selection and co-optation of traditional leaders
61	7 February 2019	15 March 2019	37	Establishment of the bureaux of national and provincial assemblies
62	2 March 2019		1	Election and establishment of the final bureaux of national and provincial assemblies
III.	**Indirect elections: senators and governors**			
63	3 December 2018	17 December 2018	15	Update and pilot test of candidate registration software and setting up of transmission system
64	18 December 2018	27 December 2018	10	Packing of material and equipment for candidacy reception and processing offices
65	28 December 2018	6 January 2019	10	Training of officers, shipping of material and fitting out of candidacy reception and processing offices
66	7 January 2019	21 January 2019	15	Opening of candidacy reception and processing offices: collection of forms, and filing and processing of candidates' records
67	22 January 2019	26 January 2019	5	Addition, withdrawal and substitution of candidates (article 16 of the electoral law)
68	27 January 2019	30 January 2019	4	Transmission of the data of senatorial and gubernatorial candidates, and deliberation by the plenary assembly of the National Independent Electoral Commission
69	31 January 2019		1	Publication of provisional lists of candidates
70	1 February 2019	11 February 2019	11	Candidacy disputes (filing and processing of appeals): articles 25 and 27 of the electoral law)
71	12 February 2019	15 February 2019	4	National Independent Electoral Commission notified of court orders issued as a result of candidacy disputes
72	16 February 2019		1	Consideration by the National Independent Electoral Commission of the duties of appeals courts
73	19 February 2019		1	Publication of the final lists of senatorial candidates
74	3 March 2019		1	Publication of final lists of gubernatorial candidates
75	2 March 2019	4 March 2019	3	Electoral campaign for senators

No	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
76	Wednesday, 6 March 2019		1	Election day for senators
77	6 March 2019		1	Compilation, centralization and publication of election results for senators
78	7 March 2019	13 May 2019	68	Dispute hearings on election results for senators
79	14 March 2019	16 March 2019	3	Electoral campaign for the election of governors and vice-governors
80	Monday, 18 March 2019		1	Election day for governors and vice-governors
81	18 March 2019		1	Compilation, centralization and publication of the results for senators
82	19 March 2019	2 April 2019	15	Dispute hearings on election results for governors and vice-governors
83	3 April 2019	5 April 2019	3	Investiture of governors and vice-governors
IV.	**Direct municipal and local elections: municipal councillors and sector/chiefdom councillors**			
84	7 April 2018	13 April 2018	7	Review, adoption and enactment of the Act to distribute seats for communal and local elections
85	18 March 2019		1	Calling of elections for communal and sector/chiefdom councillors
86	19 March 2019	18 April 2019	31	Receipt and processing of candidacies for communal and local elections
87	18 April 2019	22 April 2019	5	Addition, withdrawal and substitution of candidacies for communal and sector/chiefdom councillors
88	22 April 2019	1 May 2019	10	Transmission of the physical files of communal and sector/chiefdom councillor candidates, and deliberation by the plenary assembly of the National Independent Electoral Commission
89	1 May 2019		1	Publication of provisional lists of communal and sector/chiefdom councillor candidates
90	1 May 2019	11 May 2019	11	Disputes relating to candidacies for communal and sector/chiefdom councillors (filing and processing of appeals): articles 25 and 27 of the electoral law
91	11 May 2019	17 May 2019	7	National Independent Electoral Commission notified of court orders issued as a result of candidacy disputes

No	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
92	17 May 2019	23 May 2019	7	Consideration by the National Independent Electoral Commission of the duties of the administrative courts
93	23 May 2019		1	Publication of the final lists of communal and sector/chiefdom councillor candidates
94	24 May 2019	20 June 2019	28	Technical preparations for the printing of ballots, records and result forms: clean-up and consolidation of the candidate database
95	21 June 2019	7 August 2019	48	Printing, packing and delivery to the 15 hubs of the ballots, records and result forms
96	8 August 2019	29 August 2019	22	Distribution of ballots, records and result forms to training sites
97	30 August 2019	8 September 2019	10	Training of polling station heads and presiding trainers
98	9 September 2019	16 September 2019	8	Deployment of polling station heads and presiding trainers from training sites to the polling stations
99	17 September 2019	21 September 2019	5	Training of members of polling and counting committees
100	18 August 2019	16 September 2019	30	Witness accreditation
101	18 August 2019	7 September 2019	21	Observer and journalist accreditation
102	6 September 2019	20 September 2019	15	Electoral campaign for communal and sector/chiefdom councillor candidates
103	Sunday, 22 September 2019		1	Election day for communal and sector/chiefdom councillors
104	23 September 2019	22 October 2019	30	Collection, compilation and centralization of the municipal and local electoral results
105	23 October 2019		1	Announcement of the provisional results of the municipal and local elections
106	24 October 2019	31 October 2019	8	Municipal and local electoral dispute appeals (article 73 of the electoral law)
107	1 November 2019	30 December 2019	60	Processing of municipal and local electoral disputes (article 74 of the electoral law)
108	7 November 2019	13 December 2019	37	Establishment of communal and local councils
109	30 November 2019		1	Election and establishment of the final communal and sector/chiefdom council bureaux

No.	Start date	End date	Duration (days)	Activities
V. Indirect urban, communal and local elections				
110	29 August 2019	12 September 2019	15	Update and pilot test of the candidate registration software and setting up of the transmission system
111	13 September 2019	22 September 2019	10	Packing of material and equipment for candidacy reception and processing offices
112	23 September 2019	2 October 2019	10	Training of officers, shipping of material and fitting out of the candidacy reception and processing offices
113	3 October 2019	17 October 2019	15	Opening of the candidacy reception and processing offices: collection of forms, and filing and processing of candidates' records
114	18 October 2019	22 October 2019	5	Addition, withdrawal and substitution of candidates (article 16 of the electoral law)
115	23 October 2019	26 October 2019	4	Transmission of the data of urban councillor, bourgmestre, deputy bourgmestre, sector chief and deputy sector chief candidates, and deliberation by the plenary assembly of the National Independent Electoral Commission
116	27 October 2019		1	Publication of the provisional lists of the candidates
117	28 October 2019	7 November 2019	11	Candidacy disputes (filing and processing of appeals): articles 25 and 27 of the electoral law
118	8 November 2019	11 November 2019	4	National Independent Electoral Commission notified of court orders issued as a result of candidacy disputes
119	12 November 2019	14 November 2019	3	Consideration by the National Independent Electoral Commission of court duties
120	19 November 2019		1	Publication of the final lists of candidates for urban councillors, bourgmestres, deputy bourgmestres, sector chiefs and deputy sector chiefs
121	30 November 2019	2 December 2019	3	Electoral campaign for urban councillors, bourgmestres and sector chiefs
122	Wednesday, 4 December 2019		1	Combined election day for urban councillors, bourgmestres and sector chiefs (articles 179, 203–204 and 219–220 of the electoral law)
123	5 December 2019	14 December 2019	10	Compilation, centralization and announcement of the provisional results

No.	*Start date*	*End date*	*Duration (days)*	*Activities*
124	15 December 2019	29 December 2019	15	Dispute hearings on election results for bourgmestres and sector chiefs (articles 73 and 172 of the electoral law)
125	15 December 2019	10 January 2020	68	Dispute hearings on election results for urban councillors (articles 73 and 74 of the electoral law)
126	16 December 2019	18 December 2019	3	Investiture of the bourgmestres and sector chiefs
127	29 December 2019	3 February 2020	37	Establishment of urban councils
128	21 January 2020		1	Election and establishment of the final urban council bureaux
129	10 January 2020		1	Publication of the final list of mayoral and deputy mayoral candidates
130	21 January 2020	23 January 2020	3	Electoral campaign for mayoral and deputy mayoral candidates
131	Saturday, 25 January 2020		1	Election day for mayors and deputy mayors
132	26 January 2020	28 January 2020	3	Compilation, centralization and announcement of provisional results
133	29 January 2020	12 February 2020	15	Disputes hearings on election results for mayors and deputy mayors (articles 73 and 74 of the electoral law)
134	13 February 2020		1	Proclamation of final results
135	14 February 2020	16 February 2020	3	Investiture of mayors and deputy mayors

Done at Kinshasa on 5 November 2017
(*Signed*) Corneille **Nangaa Yobeluo**
President

Enclosure 2

External constraints linked to the implementation of the 2017-2019 electoral calendar

No.	*Tasks*	*Critical date*	*Responsible party*
I. Legal constraints			
1	Adoption of the Act to organize presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local elections, taking into account the calculation of the electoral quotient for the distribution of seats	30 November 2017	Parliament
2	Enactment of the Act to organize presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local elections, taking into account the calculation of the electoral quotient for the distribution of seats	15 December 2017	Presidency
3	Publication and delivery to the National Independent Electoral Commission of the updated list of authorized political parties (article 12 of the electoral law)	21 December 2017	Government
4	Publication and delivery to the National Independent Electoral Commission of the updated list of authorized political groupings (article 12 of the electoral law)	26 March 2018	Government
5	Adoption of the Act to distribute seats for national, provincial, municipal and local legislatures	23 April 2018	Parliament
6	Enactment of the Act to distribute seats for national, provincial, municipal and local legislatures	8 May 2018	Presidency
7	Training and operational capacity-building for magistrates and courts	23 June 2018	Supreme Council of Justice
8	Delivery to the National Independent Electoral Commission of the updated list of customary authorities in preparation for co-optation	25 October 2018	Government
II. Financial constraints (organization of the elections)			
9	Update of the funds disbursement plan for the organization of presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local electoral operations	30 November 2017	Government
10	Preparation of a plan to make funds available to support the organization of presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local electoral operations	30 November 2017	Financial partners
11	Preparation of a plan to make means available to provide logistical support for the organization of presidential, legislative, provincial, urban, municipal and local electoral operations	30 November 2017	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

No.	*Tasks*	*Critical date*	*Responsible party*
12	Compliance with the funds disbursement plan: Delivery of funds to the National Independent Electoral Commission in accordance with authorized monthly financial planning	November–December 2017 January–December 2018 January–December 2019	Government
III.	**Logistical constraints**		
13	Authorization of the creation of the agency for the procurement of electoral materials and equipment	17 January 2018	Government
14	Delivery to the National Independent Electoral Commission of sufficient logistical means for the deployment of electoral materials	12 April 2018	Government and partners
15	Start to delivery of electoral materials to training sites	12 May 2018	Government and partners

Done at Kinshasa on 5 November 2017
(*Signed*) Corneille **Nangaa Yobeluo**
President